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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE International 1 INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY 2 Application No. (SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET) PCT/EP2004/052654 3 4 5 6 Re Point V 7 In the present office action reference is made to the 8 1. following documents: 9 US 6 492 623 B1 (VILATO PABLO ET AL) 10th December 2002 10 D1: DE 82 31 895 U1 (BOSCH-SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE GMBH, 7000 11 D2: STUTTGART DE) 2nd May 1985 (1985-05-02) 12 US 6 236 024 B1 (GOTZ HELGA ET AL) 22nd May 2001 (2001-D3: 13 05-22)14 . . US 6 455 819 B1 (POHL JOERG ET AL) 24th September 2002 D4: 15 (2002 - 09 - 24)16 US 5 549 100 A (HEISNER ET AL) 27th August 1996 (1996-17 D5: 08 - 27) 18 DE 198 17 195 C1 (BSH BOSCH UND SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE D6: 19 GMBH) 9th September 1999 (1999-09-09) 20 US 2002/014482 A1 (BECKER THEODORE A ET AL) 7th February D7: 21 2002 22 DE 198 11 372 A1 (BSH BOSCH UND SIEMENS HAUSGERAETE D8: 23 GMBH) 23rd September 1999 (1999-09-23) 24 25 2 INDEPENDENT CLAIM 1 26 27 2.1 The present application does not meet the requirements 28 29 of Article 33(1) PCT because the subject matter of claim 1 30 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT. Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate 31 to this document) a household appliance for integrating into

a sector of a worktop (2) comprising an operating strip (64-

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- 1 68) containing at least one operating element (67) and
- 2 having a supporting surface on the lower side thereof for
- 3 supporting the household appliance on the worktop (2),
- 4 wherein the operating strip is substantially produced by
- 5 forming.

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- 7 2.2 The present application does not meet the requirements
- 8 of Article 33(1) PCT because the subject matter of claim 1
- 9 is not new in the sense of Article 33(2) PCT. Documents D2-D8
- 10 also completely disclose the subject matter of claim 1.

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- 12 3 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 2-5, 8, 16
- 13 Claims 2-5, 8, 16 contain no features which in combination
- 14 with the features of any claim to which they relate satisfy
- 15 the requirements of the PCT in relation to novelty or
- 16 inventive step.

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- 18 4 DEPENDENT CLAIMS 6, 7, 9-15
- 19 The combination of features contained in the dependent
- 20 claims is neither known from the present prior art not is it
- 21 made obvious by it.

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- 23 5 The industrial applicability of the subject matter of
- 24 the present application is clear.

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- 26 Re Point VII.
- 27 The subject matter of claim 1 is a product which is to be
- 28 characterised by a method for manufacture. In this case, it
- 29 should be noted that the product as such must (regardless of
- 30 the basic manufacturing process) satisfy the requirements of
- 31 patentability (among others novelty and inventive step) to
- 32 be considered as allowable.

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THE STARE SLAMK (USPTO)

Docket # 27903901572

Applic. #__

Applicant: Huber

Lerner Greenberg Stemer LLP
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100 Fax: (954) 925-1101